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LRB104 13417 LAW 25769 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to congratulate Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville on the occasion of celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2025, marking a century and a half of fostering a love of reading; and

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WHEREAS, The roots of Anderson's Bookshop trace back to the opening of W. W. Wickel Pharmacy in Naperville in 1875, where books, gifts, and toys were sold by W. W. Wickel, the great-great-grandfather of the bookstore's current owner, and his son-in-law, Louis Oswald; and

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WHEREAS, The descendants of W. W. Wickel remained dedicated to literature, leading to the establishment of the family's first official bookstore, Paperback Paradise, in 1964, and this bookstore laid the foundation for the beloved Anderson's Bookshop of today; and

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WHEREAS, Anderson's Bookshop has grown and evolved over five generations of family ownership, expanding to include a location in Downers Grove, the bookfair wholesaler Anderson's Bookfair Company (ABC Fairs) in Aurora, and the independent store Anderson's Toyshop in Naperville; and

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WHEREAS, Even in a changing literary landscape, Anderson's

1 Bookshop has continued to thrive, with knowledgeable staff,
2 hundreds of author events, engaging community programs, book
3 groups, and literature conferences; it has also contributed to
4 its community through Anderson's Bookfair Company, which has
5 raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support literacy
6 and education in local schools; and

7 WHEREAS, Anderson's Bookshop has been recognized for its
8 excellence and impact through numerous accolades, including
9 being named the 2010 Small Business of the Year by the
10 Naperville Chamber of Commerce and the 2011 Publisher's Weekly
11 Bookstore of the Year, and it also received the 2015 Lucille
12 Pannell Award for Best Children's Bookseller (General store)
13 in the nation; and

14 WHEREAS, Anderson's Bookshop is currently operated by
15 fifth generation owner Becky Anderson, who became sole owner
16 of the business after her brothers, Tres and Pete Anderson,
17 retired in 2022; through her, the business has continued its
18 multigenerational tradition of family working alongside one
19 another while fostering a strong sense of community among
20 themselves and their employees and with their customers;
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate

1 Anderson's Bookshop on achieving its 150th anniversary, and we
2 acknowledge its enduring legacy as a cornerstone of the
3 Naperville and surrounding communities, its unwavering
4 commitment to promoting literacy and a love of books, and its
5 significant contributions as a true community partner; and be
6 it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to the owner and staff of Anderson's Bookshop as an
9 expression of our esteem and respect.